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AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

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On page 18, please replace the Abstract with the following:

-- ~~ABSTRACT~~

ABSTRACT

A security element ~~(2)~~ which is difficult to copy includes a layer composite ~~(1)~~ which has microscopically fine, optically effective structures ~~(9)~~ of a surface pattern, which are embedded between two layers ~~(5; 6)~~ of the layer composite ~~(1)~~. In a plane of the surface pattern, which is defined by co-ordinate axes x and y, the optically effective structures ~~(9)~~ are shaped into an interface ~~(8)~~ between the layers ~~(5; 6)~~ in surface portions of a holographically non-copyable security feature. In at least one surface portion the optically effective structure (9) is a diffraction structure ~~(S, S*, S**)~~ formed by additive superimposition of a macroscopic superimposition function (M) with a microscopically fine relief profile (R). Both the relief profile (R), the superimposition function (M) and also the diffraction structure ~~(S, S*, S**)~~ are functions of the co-ordinates x and y. The relief profile (R) is a light-diffractive or light-scattering optically effective structure ~~(9)~~ and, following the superimposition function (M), retains the predetermined profile height. The superimposition function (M) is at least portion-wise steady and is not a periodic triangular or rectangular function. In comparison with the relief profile (R) the superimposition function (M) changes slowly. Upon tilting and rotation of the layer composite ~~(1)~~ the observer sees on the illuminated surface portions light, continuously moving strips which are dependent on the viewing direction.

~~(Figure 1)~~

reference for the movement of the strip 40 or the identification mark 37 is produced by means of the structured reflection layer.

In a further embodiment of the security feature 16 as shown in Figures 6 the adjacent surface portions 13 and 15 which adjoin the central surface portion 14 on both sides serve as a mutual reference. The adjacent surface portions 13 and 15 both have a diffraction structure S*(x, y). In contrast to the diffraction structure ~~S*(x, y)~~ **S(x, y)** the diffraction structure S*(x, y) is the difference R-M of the relief function R(x, y) and the superimposition function M(x, y), that is to say S*(x, y) = R(x, y) - M(x, y). The color bands produced by the diffraction structure S*(x, y) are of a reversed color configuration with respect to the color bands of the diffraction structure S(x, y), as is indicated in the drawing of Figure 6a by means of a bold longitudinal edging for the strip 40. For good visibility of the optical effect without aids, the security feature 16 is of a dimension of at least 5 mm and preferably more than 10 mm along the co-ordinate axis y or the line 36. The dimensions along the co-ordinate axis x are more than 0.25 mm, but preferably at least 1 mm.

Please further amend the paragraphs extending between page 19, line 32 and page ~~11~~ 20, line ~~20~~ 28, as follows: KB 12/22/09

In Figure 12a the security element 16 is in the x-y-plane defined by the co-ordinate ~~axes~~ **axis** x and y, wherein the viewing direction 39 (Figure 5) forms a